Message Text

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AMEMBASSY MEXICO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MANAGUA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PANAMA PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN, EGEN, BEXP

SUBJECT: III CONFERENCE ON US-CENTRAL AMERICAN TRADE AND INVESTMENT IN NEW ORLEANS -- FEBRUARY 15-17, 1978

1. THE BUREAU OF INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS AND THE INTERNATIONAL TRADE MART OF NEW ORLEANS ARE CO-SPONSORING THEIR UNCLASSIFIED

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THIRD ANNUAL CONFERENCE ON US-CENTRAL AMERICAN TRADE AND INVESTMENT IN NEW ORLEANS ON FEBRUARY 15-17, 1978. THIS EVENT IS BEING HELD AT THE NEW ORLEANS HILTON. IT IS DESIGNED TO BRING TOGETHER LEADING REPRESENTATIVES FROM BUSINESS, GOVERNMENTS AND ACADEMIA IN AN EFFORT TO IMPROVE PRIVATE SECTOR UNDERSTANDING OF THE POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND HUMAN FACTORS EFFECTING COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES IN

THE REGION.

2. THIS EVENT IS ONE OF A SERIES OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS CONFERENCES BEING CO-SPONSORED BY THE BUREAU IN CITIES THROUGHOUT THE UNITED STATES. THEY ARE AN IMPORTANT VEHICLE FOR INCREASING WORKING LINKAGES BETWEEN THIS COUNTRY AND LATIN AMERICA, AND BETWEEN THIS BUREAU AND ITS DOMESTIC CONSTITUENTS. SIMILAR CONFERENCES HAVE BEEN HELD IN TAMPA, SAN ANTONIO, KANSAS CITY AND MOST RECENTLY IN MIAMI. THEY HAVE FEATURED KEY GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AS LUNCHEON AND BANQUET SPEAKERS, AND PANEL SESSIONS WITH LEADING INTER-

NATIONAL EXPERTS FROM BUSINESS, GOVERNMENTS, ACADEMIA AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS. THE AUDIENCES USUALLY NUMBER SEVERAL HUNDRED PEOPLE, WITH A HEAVY PROPORTION OF BUSINESS LEADERS. THESE EVENTS ARE NOT RELATED TO ANY SPECIFIC USG POLICY EFFORTS, BUT ARE AN IMPORTANT MEANS OF CREATING A MORE RECEPTIVE PUBLIC ENVIRONMENT FOR OUR POLICY INITIATIVES IN GENERAL.

3. THE CONFERENCE IS OPEN TO THE INTERESTED PUBLIC AND BUSINESS PEOPLE FROM BOTH THE U.S. AND THE HEMISPHERE. THE REGISTRATION FEE IS \$125. THE BUREAU WOULD LIKE TO HAVE POSTS PARTICIPATE IN THIS EVENT, BUT IT IS VERY UNLIKELY -- DUE TO THE CHIEFS OF MISSION CONFERENCE IN FEBRUARY -- THAT THE BUREAU WILL BE ABLE TO FUND TRAVEL UNCLASSIFIED

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FOR AMBASSADORS. IT WILL BE ABLE TO FUND ECONOMIC/
COMMERCIAL OFFICIERS WHO WISH TO PARTICIPATE. THE COSPONSORS HAVE ARRANGED FOR SPECIAL FARES THROUGH TACA
ANS SAHSA AIRLINES FOR USG PERSONNEL AND BUSINESS PEOPLE
WHO WOULD LIKE TO ATTEND THE CONFERENCE FROM CENTRAL
AMERICA. TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THESE FARES YOU MUST
CONTACT ERNESTO SCHWEIKET, IBEROAMERICANA TOUR OPERATORS,
307 EXCHANGE ALLEY, NEW ORLEANS, LA 70130, PHONE:
(504) 561-8679, TELEX 266-033. THE ROUND-TRIP SPECIAL
AIRFARES TO NEW ORLEANS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

HONDURAS - 171 DOLS COSTA RICA - 182 PANAMA - 184 NICARAGUA - 176 GUATEMALA - 170 EL SALVADOR - 170

ECONOMIC/COMMERCIAL OFFICERS ARE AUTOMATICALLY ELIGIBLE FOR THESE FARES, IF AMERICAN CARRIER SERVICE IS UNAVAILABLE TO NEW ORLEANS AND IF IT IS IN ACCORDANCE WITH INDIVIDUAL POST RESTRICTIONS UNDER FLY AMERICA ACT.

(PRIVATE BUSINESS PEOPLE CANNOT TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THESE FARES UNLESS THEY ARE OFFICIALLY REGISTERED.) WHEN NAME OF POST REPRESENTATIVE HAVE BEEN PROVIDED TO THE DEPT, THE BUREAU WILL ISSUE APPROPRIATE TRAVEL ORDERS. SPONSORS WILL PAY POST REPRESENTATIVE 2 NIGHTS HOTEL COSTS AND THE MEALS CONNECTED WITH THE CONFERENCE PROGRAM ONLY --NO INCIDENTAL EXPENSES, MEALS OR BEVERAGE COSTS.

- 4. THE DEPT WOULD APPRECIATE THE NAMES OF ANY PROMINENT CENTRAL AMERICAN GOVT OFFICIALS WHO POSTS KNOW WILL BE ATTENDING THE CONFERENCE.
- 5. THE PROGRAM FOR THE CONFERENCE IS AS FOLLOWS:

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WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15
WELCOME -- COCKTAIL RECEPTION AT THE PLIMSOLL CLUB(ITM)

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16 --9:00 A.M.

TOPIC: THE CENTRAL AMERICAN COMMON MARKET

ENGLISH

ECONOMIC POLITICAL BACKGROUND
LEGAL ENVIRONMENT
SELLING. DISTRIBUTION AND TRANSPORTATION

SPANISH

GENERAL SYSTEMS OF TARIFFS
DISTRIBUTION, TRANSPORTATION AND SELLING TO MID-AMERICA

LUNCHEON -- 12:00 NOON -- TOPIC: OPEN

AFTERNOON SESSIONS

ENGLISH

TOURISM: THE CENTRAL AMERICAN MARKET HUMAN RIGHTS PANEL:
U.S. AMBASSADOR TO COSTA RICA
U.S. COMMISSIONER OF IMMIGRATION
CENTRAL AMERICAN PRESS
COUNCIL OF THE AMERICAS

EVENING -- GALA BANQUET -- FEATURED SPEAKER: H.E. CARLOS HUMBERTO ROMERO, PRESIDENT OF EL SALVADOR

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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17 -- 9:00 A.M.

FINANCIAL SESSIONS

ENGLISH

CENTRAL AMERICAN ECONOMIC AND BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES
BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES
SOURCE OF FINANCING
COUNTRY RISK ANALYSIS

SPANISH

TAPPING US MARKETS -- THE S.E. C. EURO AND EURO BANKS SOURCES OF FINANCING

SPANISH(CONT)

SHORT-MEDIUM-LONG TERM REINSURANCE ROLE OF MULTINATIONAL CORPORATION IN DEVELOPMENT

LUNCHEON--12:00 NOON -- TOPIC: "EX-IM BANK: CENTRAL AMERICAN OUTLOOK"

AGRICULTURAL SESSIONS

SPANISH ONLY
WORLD ECONOMIC OUTLOOK
COMMODITY PRICES OUTLOOK: COTTON, COFFEE, SUGAR
SUSTA (SOUTHERN U.S. TRADE ASSN.): SUCCESS IN AGRICULTURAL EXPORT
TOUR OF SUSTA'S AGRICULTURAL EXPORT FAIR AT THE RIVERGATE
(EXHIBITION CENTER).

6. A PARTIAL LIST OF SPEAKERS INCLUDES: H.E. CARLOS UNCLASSIFIED

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HUMBERTO ROMERO, PRESIDENT OF EL SALVADOR, HON. TERENCE A. TODMAN, HON. MARVIN WEISSMAN, U.S. AMBASSADOR TO COSTA RICA, DR. RICHARD ARELLANO, DEPUTY ASST. SECY OF STATE, HON. NICOLAS ARDITO BARLETTA, MINISTER OF ECONOMIC PLANNING, REPUBLIC OF PANAMA, WALTER BASTIAN, US DEPT OF COMMERCE, LIC. JUAN ARREA ESCALANTE, PRESIDENT, CENTRAL BANK OF COSTA RICA, DR. ESTEBAN FERRER, PRESIDENT,

INTERNATL CENTER IN MIAMI, JORGE D. FERRARIS, INTERAMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK, CARLOS MANUEL GONZALEZ, PRESIDENT, MACHINERY AND TRACTOR, LTD.(COSTA RICA), DR. ROBERTO INCER BARQUERO, PRESIDENT CENTRAL BANK OF NICARAGUA, DR. SALVADOR JUNCADELLA, ESSO STANDARD OIL, S.A., LTD., (EL SALVADOR), BRASILEO LIACURIS, DIRECTOR, GSP ASSOC. INTERNATL., MICHAEL MILLER, EXEC. VP, PAN-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION, JOHN MOORE, CHAIRMAN OF BD., EX-IM BANK, ROBERTO E PARAJON, FLA DEPT OF AGRICULTURE, QUAY W. PARROTT, JR. VP AND MGR INTERNATL DEPT, HIBERNIA NATL BANK OF N.O., ULYSSES DE ST. GERMAIN, JR. LA TRADE DEVELOPMENT, PORT OF NEW ORLEANS, LIC. HECTOR VILLAGRAN S., DIR-VP, BANCO CENTROAME;ICANO DE INTERGRACION ECONOMICA.

7. A MORE COMPLETE AND FINAL PROGRAM FOR THE CONFERENCE WILL FOLLOW SHORTLY.

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